

**Periodic report**  
**ENG 4436: English Literature and Human Rights**  
**Spring 2015**  
**Instructor: Rebecca Scherr**

This was an MA seminar offered for the first time at UiO and it generated a lot of interest (18 students in the course, which is unusually large for an MA seminar.) Based on my experience in the classroom and the evaluation report, the seminar went very well and I plan to teach it again in the future, with very few changes.

- The pensum seemed to interest the students, although the vast majority of students wrote their research papers on the same novel (*Disgrace* by Coetzee.) The theoretical / secondary readings were also covered in class and used effectively by the students in class discussions and in their research papers.
- The course was a typical seminar-based discussion with a bit of lecture. The student evaluations were very positive to the way the course was taught, so I would continue to do the same.
- The students also report that they received the information they needed from the emne site and from me. I also use Fronter to keep them updated, which functions well.

There is little to say about the course other than the fact that it was a success; this is supported by the evaluations. I would change very little for the future; perhaps experiment with changing some of the novels, which I do with most of my courses. I also have had 2 MA advisees who took the course basing their MA theses on the class, so it definitely served its purpose.